

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**Confirmation No.: 9700**

Edward G. SHIFRIN et al.

Date: March 2, 2007

Serial No.: 10/561,354

Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: November 27, 2001

Examiner: Jerry L. CUMBERLEDGE

For: STERNAL CLOSURE SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

VIA EFS-WEB

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION**

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed October 2, 2006 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**FEE CALCULATION**

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

√ If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

	NO. CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		EXTRA PRESENT		RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	34	MINUS	32	* =	2	X	(\$25 SE or \$50)	\$50.00
INDEP.	1	MINUS	3	** =	0	X	(\$100 SE or \$200)	\$0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM						X	(\$180 SE or \$360)	\$0
* not less than 20		** not less than 3		TOTAL				\$50.00

If any additional payment is required, credit card payment in the amount of \$50.00 is submitted via EFS-WEB.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

### **CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST**

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

### **SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS**

1. ☒ If checked, an abstract (an amended abstract) is submitted herewith.
2. ☐ If checked, amendment(s) to the drawings are submitted herewith.
3. ☐ If checked, amendment(s) to the specification are submitted herewith.
4. ☒ If checked, amendment(s) to the claims are submitted herewith.